

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The present invention is related to the commonly owned, co-pending U.S. patent applications 10/083,075, entitled "Application Portability And Extensibility Through Database Schema And Query Abstraction," filed February 26, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,996,558 issued February 7, 2006; 10/403,356, entitled "Dealing With Composite Data Through Data Model Entities," filed March 31, 2003, now U.S. Patent No. 7,054,877 issued May 30, 2006; and 10/600,014, now pending, entitled "Universal Annotation Management System," filed June 20, 2003, now U.S. Publication No. 2004/0260714 published December 23, 2004.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] The concepts of data abstraction and abstract queries are described in detail in the commonly owned, co-pending application 10/083,075, entitled "Improved Application Portability And Extensibility Through Database Schema And Query Abstraction," filed February 26, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,996,558 issued February 7, 2006, herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. While the data abstraction model described herein provides one or more embodiments of the invention, persons skilled in the art will recognize that the concepts provided herein can be implemented without such a data abstraction model while still providing the same or similar results.

Please replace paragraph [0045] with the following amended paragraph:

[0045] As illustrated, the initial abstract query 202<sub>i</sub> may include a reference to a model entity (defined in a model entity specification 525). As will be described in greater detail below, upon executing the initial abstract query 202<sub>i</sub>, the initial results list 206<sub>i</sub> may be supplemented with logical fields 216 specified in a model entity definition for the referenced model entity, resulting in an effective results list 216<sub>i</sub>. The concepts of model entities are described in detail in the commonly-owned, co-pending application 10/403,356, entitled "Dealing With Composite Data Through Data Model Entities," filed

March 31, 2003, U.S. Patent No. 7,054,877 issued May 30, incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace paragraph [0069] with the following amended paragraph:

[0069] If any annotations are associated with data objects in the results set (e.g., cells, columns, or rows), as determined at step 360, an indication of such is provided at step 362. The existence of annotations for data objects may be found, for example, by querying the annotation store 158 for annotations 159 containing references to the data objects in the query results 431. Techniques for determining a set of annotations associated with a set of data objects are described in detail in the co-pending, commonly-owned patent application 10/600,382, now pending, entitled, "Heterogeneous Multi-Level Extendable Indexing For General Purpose Annotation Systems" filed June 20, 2003, now U.S. Publication No. 2005/0203876 published September 15, 2005, hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. To facilitate understanding, the present example assumes there are no annotations explicitly associated with data objects in the query results 431.